

Administration for Community Living

Administration on Aging

Health Care Fraud Prevention Program Expansion and SMP Capacity Building Grants
HHS-2013-ACL-AOA-SP-0049
Application Due Date: 05/28/2013

Health Care Fraud Prevention Program Expansion and SMP Capacity Building Grants HHS-2013-ACL-AOA-SP-0049

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Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Community Living

Program Office: Administration on Aging

Funding Opportunity Title: Health Care Fraud Prevention Program Expansion and

SMP Capacity Building Grants

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2013-ACL-AOA-SP-0049

Primary CFDA Number: 93.048

Due Date for Applications: 05/28/2013

Executive Summary

With this Program Announcement, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) seeks to expand the capacity of the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program to reach more Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers, with the message of fraud prevention and identification. Grant opportunities are being made available to the 54 current SMP project grantees. Funding levels available vary by grantee and are based on the number of beneficiaries and the amount of frontier area in each territory.

This opportunity provides approximately \$7.3 million, dependent on the availability of funds, in additional funding for existing SMP grant projects. Increased funding will be used to allow all current (incumbent) SMP grantees to expand their SMP program's capacity to reach more Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, their families and caregivers by: expanding and enhancing their project's volunteer work force; expanding SMP outreach and education to beneficiaries statewide; expanding grantee's ability to manage beneficiary inquiries and complaints in a timely, professional manner; and improving and enhancing state-level SMP program and volunteer management.

An information teleconference will be held on Wednesday April 24, 2013 from 2:00 pm - 3:00pm (ET).

The call-in number is: 1-888-606-8410; Passcode:1969281

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Statutory Authority

The statutory authority for grants under this Program Announcement is contained in HIPAA of 1996 (PL 104-191); (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance 93.048).

Description

Background

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) established a national Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control (HCFAC) Program designed to coordinate federal, state, and local law enforcement activities with respect to health care fraud and abuse. Now in its sixteenth year of operation, the program continues to demonstrate its success in protecting beneficiaries by identifying and prosecuting the most egregious instances of health care fraud and preventing future fraud or abuse. As a partner in these fraud control initiatives, ACL funds the SMP program, where grantees recruit, train, and support a network of volunteers who provide outreach and education to Medicare beneficiaries on preventing, identifying, and reporting health care fraud.

ACL has been a partner from the beginning in the Department's efforts to fight fraud, error and abuse in the Medicare program. ACL provides funds to Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program grantees to support the training and mobilization of volunteers to provide consumer education to beneficiaries. Funding for the SMP program has remained level for almost 10 years. Each SMP grantee operates a state-wide program with maximum funding of \$180,000 per year provided by Older Americans Act funds.

Educating consumers to prevent health care fraud is the essence of the mission and message of ACL's Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program. The 54 SMP projects recruit and train retired senior volunteers to educate their peers about how to protect their Medicare numbers, examine their Medicare Summary Notices to detect discrepancies, and report suspicious activity when detected. The SMP Program seeks to empower seniors through increased awareness and understanding of health care programs to protect them from the economic and health-related consequences associated with Medicare fraud, error, and abuse.

SMP volunteers work in their communities to educate Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers about the importance of reviewing their Medicare notices to identify billing errors and potentially fraudulent activity. Program volunteers also encourage seniors to make inquiries to the SMP Program when such issues are identified, so that the project may ensure appropriate resolution or referral.

Since 1997, SMP projects have made great progress in recruiting and training retired professionals and other senior citizens on Medicare and Medicaid error, fraud and abuse. Based on the June 2012 OIG Performance Report, there were over 5,600 active SMP volunteers in 2011. These volunteers work in their communities, senior centers and elsewhere to educate Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers to actively protect themselves against fraudulent and abusive health care practices by reviewing their Medicare benefit statements and reporting suspected errors.

SMP projects refer numerous beneficiary complaints to state and national fraud control or consumer protection entities, including Medicare, state Medicaid fraud control units, state attorneys general, the OIG, and the CMS. SMP projects utilize the SMART FACTS management, tracking and reporting system to capture SMP program activity data, to include tracking and confidential reporting of beneficiary complaints, referrals, savings and other outcomes.

In 2010 and 2011 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provided the Administration on Aging with an additional \$9 million per year in HCFAC funds to expand the capacity of the SMP program to better meet the growing demands for fraud detection and prevention. These funds were used to increase the SMP program's capacity to reach more Medicare beneficiaries, particularly in targeted cities with high risks for fraud. In addition to providing training, education, and outreach, this funding was used to increase the SMP's ability to respond and resolve inquiries and complaints in a timely manner, and improve coordination of projects with Federal, State, and local officials.

With this Program Announcement, ACL has chosen to continue the SMP program expansion activities, begun in 2010 and 2011 with the support of CMS and continued by ACL in 2012, by allocating additional HCFAC funds to increase awareness of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries of health care fraud prevention, identification and reporting through expansion of SMP program capacity. This additional funding will support building the capacity of the SMP program with an expanded network of trained, professional volunteers and will enable new focused efforts to increase community outreach and education activities.

At the February 27, 2013 House Energy & Commerce Committee hearing, "Fostering Innovation to Fight Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Health Care", Peter Budetti, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Program Integrity at CMS, stated, "Health care fraud has no boundaries". Health care fraud occurs in every state and region of the country. For that reason, CMS and OIG Medicare fraud outreach, investigation and prevention efforts are occurring nationwide. The SMP program plays a key role in these efforts by educating Medicare beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers on how to protect themselves from Medicare fraud and partnering with CMS and the OIG on their prevention activities.

With this grant opportunity, ACL has chosen to base the funding levels on the Medicare beneficiary population and frontier areas of the state or territory, unlike previous Expansion Grant opportunities in which funding levels were based on designated high fraud areas. This change will provide for a more equitable distribution of funds for each SMP grantee to expand program activities and enhance project infrastructure to more effectively reach the Medicare beneficiary population through education and outreach activities.

Priority Activities

With this Program Announcement, ACL will provide additional funding opportunities to all current (incumbent) SMP project grantees. All SMP applicants will be required to **expand the capacity** of their SMP project to recruit, train, manage, and support an increased number of SMP volunteers.

ACL recognizes the need to increase the capacity of all SMP projects to reach larger numbers of Medicare beneficiaries, their caregivers and family members with the SMP message of fraud prevention. The goal of this announcement is to enhance SMP efforts to increase and support the volunteer workforce required to expand outreach and education efforts throughout the state.

Purpose and Objectives - Expansion of SMP Program Capacity

All SMP applicants for this funding opportunity will be required to **expand the capacity of the SMP project** to recruit, screen, train, manage and support an increased number of SMP volunteers, and utilize these volunteers to effectively expand SMP outreach to beneficiaries in local communities in a more comprehensive manner throughout the state.

Expansion of SMP program capacity may be accomplished in a variety of ways, including:

- **a.** Expand and enhance the SMP project's volunteer work force:
 - Recruit, train, manage and support increased numbers of SMP volunteers to provide broader program coverage in additional communities. Ensure adequate training to meet their expanded roles.
 - Ensure adequate, professional SMP program staffing capability to effectively recruit, train, support and manage an expanded cadre of volunteers, and to coordinate implementation of an effective volunteer management/risk management program
 - Expand SMP partnerships and/or subcontracts with local community-based organizations, as deemed appropriate, to assist with volunteer recruitment, management and training at the grass-roots level around each state.
 - Conduct specialized recruiting of dual-language volunteers to assist with targeted outreach to non-English speaking populations in the state.
 - Provide specialized training to selected volunteers deemed capable of managing and referring beneficiary complaints. This training will enable them to conduct in-depth casework, research, and investigation of complaints, manage effective referrals to CMS contractors, provider education and more
- **b.** Expand SMP Outreach and Education to beneficiaries statewide:
 - Use media spots, new materials, and other innovative methods to increase beneficiary awareness about the SMP program, as well as opportunities to become an SMP volunteer.
 - Use the expanded volunteer workforce to expand outreach, education and training efforts to all counties in the state, focusing on those areas which have been underserved thus far.
 - Use media outreach, PSAs and development of multi-cultural materials to greatly expand consumer outreach efforts targeting limited English-speaking populations.
- **c.** Expand SMP ability to manage beneficiary inquiries and complaints in a timely, professional manner:
 - Expand the number of staff responding to inquiries at the SMP statewide toll-free number.
 - Ensure that the staff responding to inquiries and complaints are well-trained and qualified.
 - Expand the scope and depth of SMP handling of beneficiary complaints and inquiries of potential fraud.
 - Ensure fully coordinated referrals to the appropriate partner agencies through both SMP established and informal procedures.

- **d.** Enhance SMP capacity for performance management:
 - Enhance SMP capability for performance management, tracking and reporting of results, including data quality oversight.
 - Ensure that the results produced from additional funding, as reflected in increased SMP activities, impacts, and outcomes, are accurately recorded, tracked, and reported.

The grantee should ensure that semi-annual grants reports capture additional activities, innovations, strategies, collaborations and tools developed to increase public awareness of fraud and to address complaints received as a result of increased outreach efforts. In addition, the OIG will continue to collect performance data from the SMP reporting system annually, and along with ACL and the SMP Resource Center, assess the level of results achieved by SMPs with the additional funding stream.

II. Award Information

Funding Instrument Type: Cooperative Agreement

Estimated Total Funding: \$7,330,000

Expected Number of Awards: 54

Award Ceiling: \$372,000 Per Budget Period

Award Floor: \$0 Per Budget Period

Average Projected Award \$136,000 Per Budget Period

Amount:

Length of Project Periods:

24-month project with two 12-month budget periods

Additional Information on Awards:

Awards made under this announcement are subject to the availability of Federal funds.

Allocation of funding is based on the number of Medicare beneficiaries and the amount of frontier areas in each territory. The individual award ceilings are listed in alphabetical order by state below:

Alabama	150,000
Alaska	80,000
Arizona	135,000
Arkansas	125,000
California	375,000
Colorado	120,000
Connecticut	115,000

District of Columbia	80,000
Delaware	90,000
Florida	295,000
Georgia	170,000
Guam	30,000
Hawaii	90,000
Idaho	95,000
Illinois	205,000
Indiana	155,000
Iowa	125,000
Kansas	115,000
Kentucky	140.000
Louisiana	130,000
Maine	100,000
Maryland	130,000
Massachusetts	145,000
Michigan	200,000
Minnesota	140,000
Mississippi	120,000
Missouri	155,000
Montana	90,000
Nebraska	100,000
Nevada	100,000
New Hampshire	95,000
New Jersey	160,000
New Mexico	100,000
New York	280,000
North Carolina	200,000
North Dakota	90,000
Ohio	215,000
Oklahoma	125,000
Oregon	120,000

Pennsylvania	245,000
Puerto Rico	95,000
Rhode Island	90,000
South Carolina	140,000
South Dakota	90,000
Tennessee	160,000
Texas	290,000
U.S. Virgin Islands	30,000
Utah	95,000
Vermont	90,000
Virginia	165,000
Washington	145,000
West Virginia	110,000
Wisconsin	150,000
Wyoming	85,000

All grant awards will be cooperative agreements. All awardees will adhere to the same terms and conditions of a new cooperative agreement, which is applicable to this funding opportunity and does not replace or supersede the cooperative agreement under which current (incumbent) projects operate.

ACL will be substantially involved in the grantee's activities by reviewing technical assistance products and participating in planning and training activities, which will be determined by the project's expansion and capacity building efforts detailed in the approved application.

The terms and conditions for this cooperative agreement are as follows and will be incorporated by reference in the Notice of Award (NoA).

The **Grantee** will execute the responsibilities of the cooperative agreement as listed below:

- 1. Collaborate with the ACL in the modification and execution of the work plan, initially within 45 days of the award.
- 2. Fulfill all of the requirements of the grant initiative as detailed in this program announcement including:
 - 1. Expand the organizational capacity of the SMP project to recruit, train, support, and manage a significant increase in the number of SMP volunteers.
 - 2. Involve partners identified in the grantee application in appropriate key activities and areas of this expansion.
 - 3. Expand program coverage and regular outreach to all localities in the state through the use of the expanded volunteer workforce.

- 4. Strengthen targeted outreach to beneficiaries considered at greatest risk from fraud.
- 5. Raise public awareness of the types and incidence of, as well as the prevention of, health care fraud, error and abuse through innovative media approaches.
- 3. Evaluate the impact of overall project activities and ensure quality assurance systems are in place.
- 4. Share information with ACL, the SMP Technical Resource Center, the Aging Network, national, state and local partner organizations, and other entities as appropriate.
- 5. Report indicators of expanded performance (volunteer involvement, beneficiaries educated, simple inquiries and complex issues addressed, and dollar amount of issues referred for further action) in SMART FACTS.

Description of ACL's Anticipated Substantial Involvement Under the Cooperative Agreement

The ACL will carry out the following activities for the cooperative agreement, as follows:

- 1. ACL Project Officer will perform the day-to-day Federal responsibilities of managing a grant initiative and will work with the grantee to ensure that the minimum requirements for the grant are met.
- Assist the grantee project leadership in understanding the policy concerns and/or priorities of ACL by conducting periodic briefings and by carrying out ongoing consultations.
- 3. Work cooperatively with the grantee to clarify the programmatic and budgetary issues to be addressed by the project. Based on these negotiations, if necessary, the grantee will revise the project work plan detailing expectations for major activities and products during the 24 month grant period.
- 4. Provide technical advice to the grantee on the provision of technical support and associated tasks related to the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of this grant.
- 5. Review and provide technical advice on grantee work products.
- 6. Provide consultation to the grantee in identifying emerging issues as they relate to the goals and objectives of this grant program.
- 7. Work with the grantee on the development and implementation of evaluation and quality assurance systems to ensure that performance is measured and continuous improvement occurs.
- 8. Attend and participate in major project events as appropriate.

Once a cooperative agreement is in place, requests to modify or amend it or the work plan may be made by ACL or the awardee at any time. Modifications and/or amendments of the Cooperative Agreement or work plan shall be effective upon the mutual agreement of both parties, except where ACL is authorized under the Terms and Conditions of award, 45 CFR Part 74 or 92, or other applicable regulation or statute to make unilateral amendments. When

an award is issued the cooperative agreement terms and conditions from the program announcement are incorporated by reference.

Please see *Section IV.5 Funding Restrictions* for limitations on the use of Federal funds awarded under this announcement.

III. Eligibility Information

III.1. Eligible Applicants

This is a limited competition open to the current SMP grantees. Only current SMP project grantees are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity. Allocation of funding is based on the number of Medicare beneficiaries and the amount of frontier areas in each territory.

It is necessary to limit competition for this program to the current SMP grantees to expand their implementation efforts. In order for the outcomes expected to be produced within the allotted timeframe of the program, the infrastructure for achieving these results must already be in place. This infrastructure includes:

- A proven SMP volunteer management, training, and recruiting program;
- Expertise in capturing data in the SMP management, tracking, and reporting system (SMART FACTS);
- Established partnership relationships between the SMP program and state and local fraud control partners, including CMS, OIG, Attorney General, and State Insurance Commissioners offices:
- Developed and tested SMP program public awareness materials, brochures, PSAs, and other resources to use in outreach and educational efforts;
- Expertise and experience in reaching targeted populations with the SMP message, among others.

The current SMP projects are uniquely qualified to address the requirements contained in this funding opportunity. Their established infrastructure and expertise will enable them to successfully meet the challenging and time-sensitive requirements of this program. It is essential that the infrastructure, foundation of expertise, and proven experience is in place to assure the grant objectives are achieved.

Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive, awards under this announcement.

III.2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement: No

If applicable, remember, there are two types of match: 1) non-Federal cash and 2) non-Federal in-kind. In general, costs borne by the applicant and cash contributions of any and all third parties involved in the project, including sub-grantees, contractors and consultants, are considered matching funds. Volunteered time and use of facilities to hold meetings or conduct project activities may be considered in-kind (third party) donations. Examples of non-Federal cash match includes budgetary funds provided from the applicant agency's budget for costs associated with the project. ACL encourages you to not exceed the minimum match requirement. Applications with a match greater than the minimum required will not receive additional consideration under the review. Match is not one of the responsiveness criteria as noted in Section III, 3 Application Screening Criteria.

III.3. Other

DUNS Number and System for Award Management (SAM) Requirement

All applicants must have a DUNS number (www.dnb.com) and be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, www.sam.gov) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete, and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award. Finalize a new, or renew an existing, registration at least two weeks before the application deadline. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award. Maintain documentation (with dates) of your efforts to register or renew at least two weeks before the deadline. See the SAM Quick Guide for Grantees at: https://www.sam.gov/sam/transcript/ SAM Quick Guide Grants Registrations-v1.6.pdf.

HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for, and ultimately receive, Federal grant funds from any HHS Agency, or receive subawards directly from recipients of those grant funds to:

- Be registered in the SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
- Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
- Provide its active DUNS number in each application or plan it submits to the OPDIV.

The agency is prohibited from making an award until an applicant has complied with these requirements. At the time an award is ready to be made, if the intended recipient has not complied with these requirements, the agency:

- May determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award; and
- May use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Application Disqualification Factors

All applications will be screened to assure a level playing field for all applicants. Applications that fail to meet the screening criteria described below will **not** be reviewed and will receive **no** further consideration.

Applications that fail to satisfy the due date and time deadline requirements stated in

Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times will be deemed non-responsive and will not be considered for funding under this announcement.

See *Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times* for disqualification information specific to electronically-submitted applications:

- Electronically-submitted applications that do not receive a date/time-stamp email indicating application submission on or before 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the due date, will be disqualified and will not be considered for competition.
- Electronically-submitted applications that fail the checks and validations at www.Grants.gov because the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) does not have a current registration at the System for Award Management (SAM) at the time of application submission will be disqualified and will not be considered for competition.
- The Project Narrative section of the Application must be **double-spaced**, on 8 ½" x 11" plain white paper with **1" margins** on both sides, and a **font size of not less than** 11
- The Project Narrative must not exceed 20 pages. NOTE: The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Project Personnel are not counted as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 20-page limit.

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from http://www.grants.gov indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an http://www.grants.gov submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the application deadline.

Application Responsiveness Criteria

- 1. Applicant must be the current SMP grantee in one of the 54 states identified above; and
- 2. Applicant must be applying for the corresponding funding level identified above in Section II Award Information.

IV. Application and Submission Information

Address to Request Application Package

Application materials can be obtained from http://www.grants.gov

Please note, ACL is requiring applications for all announcements to be submitted electronically through http://www.grants.gov. The Grants.gov (http://www.grants.gov) registration process can take several days. If your organization is not currently registered with http://www.grants.gov, please begin this process immediately. For assistance with http://www.grants.gov or 1-800-518-4726 between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Eastern Time. At http://www.grants.gov, you will be able to download a copy of the application packet, complete it off-line, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov website (http://www.grants.gov).

Applications submitted via http://www.grants.gov:

- You may access the electronic application for this program on http://www.grants.gov. You must search the downloadable application page by the Funding Opportunity Number or CFDA number.
- At the http://www.grants.gov website, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, including the hours of operation. ACL strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application due date to begin the application process through http://www.grants.gov because of the time involved to complete the registration process.
- All applicants must have a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and register in the System for Award Management (SAM). You should allow a minimum of **five days** to complete the SAM registration.
- **Note**: Failure to submit the correct suffix can lead to delays in identifying your organization and access to funding in the Payment Management System.
- Effective October 1, 2010, HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for and ultimately receive Federal grant funds from any HHS Operating/Staff Division (OPDIV/STAFFDIV) or receive subawards directly from the recipients of those grant funds to:
- 1. Be registered in the SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
- 2. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
- 3. Provide its DUNS number in each application or plan it submits to the OPDIV.

An award cannot be made until the applicant has complied with these requirements. At the time an award is ready to be made, if the intended recipient has not complied with these requirements, the OPDIV/STAFFDIV:

- May determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award; and
- May use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Additionally, all first-tier subaward recipients must have a DUNS number at the time the subaward is made.

- Since October 1, 2003, The Office of Management and Budget has required applicants to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements. It is entered on the SF 424. It is a unique, nine-digit identification number, which provides unique identifiers of single business entities. The DUNS number is *free and easy* to obtain.
- Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or by using this link to access a guide:
 - http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/grants/duns num guide.pdf

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information included on the SF424 and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- Prior to application submission, Microsoft Vista and Office 2007 users should review the http://www.grants.gov compatibility information and submission instructions provided at http://www.grants.gov (click on "Vista and Microsoft Office 2007 Compatibility Information").
- Your application must comply with any page limitation requirements described in this Program Announcement.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement from http://www.grants.govtracking number. The Administration for Community Living will retrieve your application form from http://www.grants.gov.
- After the Administration on Aging retrieves your application form from http://www.grants.gov, a return receipt will be emailed to the applicant contact. This will be in addition to the validation number provided by http://www.grants.gov.
- Each year organizations registered to apply for Federal grants through http://www.grants.gov will need to renew their registration with the System for Awards Management (SAM). You can register with the SAM online and it will take about 30 minutes (http://www.sam.gov).

Contact person regarding this Program Announcement:

Rebecca Kinney

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living Washington, DC 20201

Phone: (202) 357-3520

Email: rebecca.kinney@acl.hhs.gov

IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Partner Standard Format and PO-Specific Format Requirements For All Applications:

Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)

The individual(s), named by the applicant/recipient organization, who is authorized to act for the applicant/recipient and to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to grant applications or awards.

Each applicant must designate an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). An AOR is named by the applicant, and is authorized to act for the applicant, to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to the grant application or awards.

AOR Authorization is part of the registration process at www.Grants.gov where the AOR will create a short profile and obtain a username and password from the Grants.gov Credential Provider. AORs will only be authorized for the DUNS number registered in the System for Award Management (SAM).

Point of Contact

In addition to the AOR, a point of contact on matters involving the application must also be identified. The point of contact, known as the Project Director or Principal Investigator, should not be identical to the person identified as the AOR. The point of contact must be available to answer any questions pertaining to the application.

Application Checklist

Applicants may refer to Section VIII. Other Information for a checklist of application requirements that may be used in developing and organizing application materials. Details concerning acknowledgment of received applications are available in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times of this announcement.

Follow the instructions provided in the formatting section to ensure that your application can be printed efficiently and consistently for the competitive review.

Observe page limitations.

All applicants must follow the instructions provided in this section. Be sure to print all attachments (components) on paper and count the number of pages before submission. Keep the printed copy as a hard copy of your application for your files.

ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED VIA www.Grants.gov:

Electronic applications will only be accepted via www.Grants.gov. The Agency will not accept applications submitted via email or via facsimile. Only applications, which pass the Grants.gov validation check, will be acknowledged.

Please read this section carefully before beginning application submission. It is mandatory to follow the instructions provided in this section to ensure that your application can be printed efficiently and consistently for review.

Copies Required

Applicants must submit one complete copy of the application package electronically. Applicants submitting electronic applications need not provide additional copies of their application package.

NOTE: Applications submitted via www.Grants.gov will undergo a validation check. See Section IV.2. Application Submission Options and Section IV.3. Submission Due Dates and Times, Explanation of Due Dates. The validation check can affect whether the application is accepted for review. Applications that fail the www.Grants.gov validation check will not be transmitted to the Agency. If the application fails the validation check and is not resubmitted by 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date, it will be disqualified.

Signatures

Follow the AOR Authorization and E-Biz POC instructions provided at www.Grants.gov.

Required OMB-Approved and Standard Forms (SFs)

<u>www.Grants.gov</u> provides its own protocols for the submission of OMB-approved and Standard Forms (SFs) such as the SF-424 application and budget forms and the SF-P/PSL, Project/Performance Site Location form. See *Section IV.2. Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications* for required OMB-approved Standard Forms and required assurances and certifications.

Application Package Components

Applications must be divided into the sections listed in the table. It is important that each component is submitted in a separate electronic file. Page limitations apply to the Project Description document and the Appendices and the following:

- The Project Summary/Abstract is limited to one single-spaced page.
- The Project Narrative is limited to 20 double spaced pages.

Application Package Components	Page Limitations
Required Standard Forms (SFs) and/or OMB-approved Forms	No page limitations.
Required Certifications and Assurances	No page limitations.
Project Summary/Abstract	One page limitation, single-spaced, font size of no less than 11 point
Project Narrative	20 pages in double-spaced format with a font size of no less than 11-point and included items are listed later in this section. The 20 page project description <i>does not</i> include the project abstract/summary, table of contents, appendix, budget and budget narrative, or the standard forms.
Budget Justification	Submit a 3-5 year budget in accordance with program announcement requirements with line-item detail with justification narrative. The Budget Justification should be no longer than 10 pages.
Proof of Legal Status/Proof of Non-Profit Status	No page limitations.

The required content of the Project Narrative and any Appendices, and their page limits, are listed later in this section.

With the exception of the required Standard Forms (SFs), all application materials must be formatted so that they will print out onto 8 ½" x 11" white paper with 1-inch margins. All pages of the application component, i.e., Project Narrative, Budget Justification, Appendices, must be sequentially numbered. Applicants should print all attachments on paper and count the number of pages before submitting the application. Applicants should keep a hard copy of the submitted application package for their files.

All elements of the application submission, with the exception of the one-page Project Summary/Abstract, the Budget Justification, required Assurances and Certifications, and proof of legal status/non-profit status, must be in double-spaced format in 11-point font. The Project Summary/Abstract is required to be one single-spaced page in a font size not less than 11-point. The Budget Justification may be single-spaced, in a font size not less than 11-point and should be no more than 10 pages.

Applicants must follow the instructions provided in this section:

Carefully observe the file naming conventions required by www.Grants.gov.

Limit file names to 50 characters and do not use special characters (example: &,-,*,%,/,#) including periods (.), blank spaces, and accent marks, within application form fields, and file attachment names. An underscore (_) may be used to separate a file name.

Use only file formats supported by the Agency.

It is critical that applicants only submit application components using the supported file formats listed here. Documents in file formats that are not supported by the Agency will be removed from the application and will not be used in the competitive review. This may make the application incomplete and the Agency will not make any awards based on an incomplete application.

The Agency supports the following file formats:

- Adobe PDF Portable Document Format (.pdf)
- Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)
- Microsoft Excel (.xls or .xlsx)
- Microsoft PowerPoint (.ppt)
- Image Formats (.JPG, .GIF, .TIFF, or .BMP only)

Do not encrypt or password protect the electronic application files!

If the Agency cannot access submitted electronic files because they have been encrypted or are password protected, the affected file will be removed from the application and will not be used in the competitive review. This may make the application incomplete and the Agency will not make any awards based on an incomplete application.

Note - This is a two-year grant. Therefore the budget justification submission and the workplan should cover 2 years.

Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications
Applicants seeking grant or cooperative agreement awards under this announcement
must submit the listed Standard Forms (SFs), assurances, and certifications with the
application. All required Standard Forms, assurances, and certifications are available at
Grants.gov Forms Repository unless specified otherwise.

Forms / Assurances / Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes / Description
DUNS Number (Universal Identifier) and Systems for Award Management (SAM) registration.	Required for all applicants. A DUNS number is required of all applicants. To obtain a DUNS number, go to http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform . SAM registration is available at http://www.sam.gov . Active registration at SAM must be maintained throughout the application and project award period.	A DUNS number and SAM registration are eligibility requirements for all applicants. See Section III.3. Other for information on obtaining a DUNS number and registration at http://www.sam.gov .
SF-424 - Application for Federal Assistance	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Required for all applications.
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Submission required of all applicants with the application package. If it is not submitted with the application package, it may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.	Submission of this Certification is required for all applications.

Work plan	Submit 3-5 year work plan in accordance with the funding opportunity announcement requirements	
SF-424A - Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs and SF-424B - Assurances - Non-Construction Programs	Submission is required for all applicants when applying for a non-construction project. Standard Forms must be used. Forms must be submitted by the application due date.	Required for all applications when applying for a non-construction project. By signing and submitting the SF-424B, applicants are making the appropriate certification of their compliance with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination.

Additional Assurances and Certifications

Note - This is a two-year grant. Therefore the budget justification submission and the workplan should cover 2 years.

IV.2. Project Narrative

Project Narrative

The Project Narrative must be double-spaced, on 8 ½" x 11" paper with 1" margins on both sides, and a font size of not less than 11. You can use smaller font sizes to fill in the Standard Forms and Sample Formats. The suggested length for the Project Narrative is ten to twenty pages; twenty pages is the maximum length allowed. ACL will not accept applications with a Project Narrative that exceeds 20 pages. The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Personnel are not counted as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 20-page limit, but all of the other sections noted below are included in the limit.

The components of the Project Narrative counted as part of the 20 page limit include: Summary/Abstract

Problem Statement
Goal(s) and Objective(s)
Proposed Intervention
Special Target Populations and Organizations
Outcomes
Project Management
Evaluation
Dissemination
Organizational Capability

The Project Narrative is the most important part of the application, since it will be used as the primary basis to determine whether or not your project meets the minimum requirements for grants issued by the Administration for Community Living. The Project Narrative should provide a clear and concise description of your project.

Summary/Abstract

This section should include a brief - no more than 265 words maximum - description of the proposed project, including: goal(s), objectives, outcomes, and products to be developed. (Please reference the summary/abstract template included under the Downloads for this Funding Opportunity Announcement as posted

at http://www.acl.gov/Funding Opportunities/Announcements/Index.aspx).

Problem Statement

This section should describe, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, the nature and scope of the particular problem or issue the proposed intervention is designed to address, including how the project will potentially affect the elderly population and/or their caregivers (including specific subgroups within those populations), and possibly the health care and social services systems (e.g., the use of health care and/or nursing home services.)

Goal(s) and Objective(s)

This section should consist of a description of the project's goal(s) and major objectives. Unless the project involves multiple, complex interventions, we recommend you have only one overall goal.

Proposed Intervention

This section should provide a clear and concise description of the intervention you are proposing to use to address the problem described in the "Problem Statement". You should also describe the rationale for using the particular intervention, including factors such as: "lessons learned" for similar projects previously tested in your community, or in other areas of the country; factors in the larger environment that have created the "right conditions" for the intervention (e.g., existing social, economic or political factors that you'll be able to

take advantage of, etc.). Also note any major barriers you anticipate encountering, and how your project will be able to overcome those barriers. Be sure to describe the role and makeup of any strategic partnerships you plan to involve in implementing the intervention, including other organizations, supporters, and/or consumer groups.

Special Target Populations and Organizations

This section should describe how you plan to involve community-based organizations in a meaningful way in the planning and implementation of the proposal project. This section should also describe how the proposed intervention will target disadvantaged populations, including limited-English speaking populations.

Outcomes

This section of the project narrative must clearly identify the measurable outcome(s) that will result from the project. (NOTE: ACL will not fund any project that does not include measurable outcomes). This section should also describe how the project's findings might benefit the field at large, (e.g., how the findings could help other organizations throughout the nation to address the same or similar problems.) List measurable outcomes in the work plan grid under "Measurable Outcomes" in addition to any discussion included in the narrative along with a description of how the project might benefit the field at large (Please reference the optional Sample Work Plan Template included under the Downloads for this Funding Opportunity Announcement as posted at http://www.acl.gov/Funding Opportunities/Announcements/Index.aspx)

A "measurable outcome" is an observable end-result that describes how a particular intervention benefits consumers. It demonstrates the functional status, mental well-being, knowledge, skill, attitude, awareness or behavior.) It can also describe a change in the degree to which consumers exercise choice over the types of services they receive, or whether they are satisfied with the way a service is delivered. Additional examples include: a change in the responsiveness or cost-effectiveness of a service delivery system; a new model of support or care that can be replicated in the aging network; new knowledge that can contribute to the field of aging; a measurable increase in community awareness; or a measurable increase in persons receiving services. A measurable outcome is not a measurable "output", such as: the number of clients served; the number of training sessions held; or the number of service units provided.

You should keep the focus of this section on describing what outcome(s) will be produced by the project. You should use the Evaluation section noted below to describe how the outcome(s) will be measured and reported.

Your application will be scored on the clarity and nature of your proposed outcomes, not on the number of outcomes cited. It is totally appropriate for a project to have only ONE outcome that it is trying to achieve through the intervention reflected in the project's design.

This section should include a clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants and partner organizations, and how they will contribute to achieving the project's objectives and outcomes. It should specify who would have day-to-day responsibility for key tasks such as: leadership of project; monitoring the project's on-going progress, preparation of reports; communications with other partners and ACL. It should also describe the approach that will be used to monitor and track progress on the project's tasks and objectives.

Evaluation

This section should describe the method(s), techniques and tools that will be used to: 1) determine whether or not the proposed intervention achieved its anticipated outcome(s), and 2) document the "lessons learned" – both positive and negative - from the project that will be useful to people interested in replicating the intervention, if it proves successful.

Dissemination

This section should describe the method that will be used to disseminate the project's results and findings in a timely manner and in easily understandable formats, to parties who might be interested in using the results of the project to inform practice, service delivery, program development, and/or policy-making, including and especially those parties who would be interested in replicating the project.

Organization Capability

Each application should include an organizational capability statement and vitae for key project personnel. The organizational capability statement should describe how the applicant agency (or the particular division of a larger agency which will have responsibility for this project) is organized, the nature and scope of its work and/or the capabilities it possesses. It should also include the organization's capability to sustain some or all project activities after Federal financial assistance has ended.

This description should cover capabilities of the applicant agency not included in the program narrative, such as any current or previous relevant experience and/or the record of the project team in preparing cogent and useful reports, publications, and other products. If appropriate, include an organization chart showing the relationship of the project to the current organization. Please attach short vitae for key project staff only. Neither vitas nor an organizational chart will count towards the narrative page limit. Also include information about any contractual organization(s) that will have a significant role(s) in implementing project and achieving project goals.

Budget Narrative/Justification

Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Electronic Submission via www.Grants.gov

- Additional guidance on the submission of electronic applications can be found at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get-registered.jsp.
- If applicants encounter any technical difficulties in using www.Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Contact Center at: 1-800-518-4726, or by email at support@grants.gov, to report the problem and obtain assistance. Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Grants.gov Contact Center is closed on federal holidays.
- Applicants should always retain Grants.gov Contact Center service ticket number(s) as they may be needed for future reference.
- Contact with the Grants.gov Contact Center prior to the listed application due date and time does not ensure acceptance of an application. If difficulties are encountered, the Grants Management Officer listed in Section VII. Agency Contacts will determine whether the submission issues are due to Grants.gov system errors or user error.

IV.3. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications: 05/28/2013

Explanation of Due Dates

The due date for receipt of applications is listed in the *Overview* section and in this section. See *Section III.3. Application Disqualification Factors*.

Electronic Applications

The deadline for submission of electronic applications via www.Grants.gov is 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date. Electronic applications submitted at 12:00 a.m., ET, on the day after the due date will be considered late and will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties, either on your end or, with http://www.grants.gov. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

Applicants are required to submit their applications electronically via www.Grants.gov unless they received an exemption through the process described in Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission.

The agency does not accommodate transmission of applications by email or facsimile.

Instructions for electronic submission via <u>www.Grants.gov</u> are available at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply for grants.jsp.

Please note:

Applications submitted to www.Grants.gov at any time during the open application period, and prior to the due date and time that fail the Grants.gov validation check will not be received at ACL. **These applications will not be acknowledged.** Applications that fail the Grants.gov validation check will not be transmitted to ACL though they may have been submitted on time.

Each time an application is submitted via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>, the application will receive a new date and time-stamp. Only those applications with date and time-stamps that result in a validated application, which is transmitted to ACL, will be acknowledged.

Extensions and/or Waiving Due Date and Receipt Time Requirements

ACL may extend an application due date and receipt time when circumstances make it impossible for applicants to submit their applications on time. These events include natural disasters (floods, hurricanes, tornados, etc.), or when there are widespread disruptions of electrical service, or mail service, or in other rare cases. The determination to extend or waive due date and/or receipt time requirements rests with the Grants Management Officer listed as the Office of Grants Management Contact in Section VII. Agency Contacts.

Acknowledgement from www.Grants.gov of an electronic application's submission:

Applicants will receive an initial email upon submission of their application to www.Grants.gov. This email will provide a **Grants.gov Tracking Number**. Applicants should refer to this tracking number in all communication with Grants.gov. The email will also provide a **date and time stamp**, which serves as the official record of the application's submission. The date and time-stamp must reflect a submission time on, or before, 11:59 p.m., ET, on the application due date. Receipt of this email does not indicate that the application is accepted or that is has passed the validation check.

Each time an application is submitted, or resubmitted, via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>, the application will receive a new date and time-stamp. Only those applications with on-time date and time-stamps that result in a validated application, which is transmitted to ACL, will be acknowledged.

Applicants will be provided with an acknowledgement from www.Grants.gov that the submitted application package has passed, or failed, a series of checks and validations. Applications that are submitted on time that fail the validation check will not be transmitted to ACL and will not be acknowledged.

See "What to Expect After Submitting" at www.Grants.gov for more information.

IV.4. Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs

This program is not subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," or 45 CFR Part 100, "Intergovernmental Review of Department of Health and Human Services Programs and Activities." No action is required of applicants under this announcement with regard to E.O. 12372.

IV.5. Funding Restrictions

Costs of organized fund raising, including financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred solely to raise capital or obtain contributions, are considered unallowable costs under grants or cooperative agreements awarded under this funding opportunity announcement.

Grant awards may not allow reimbursement of pre-award costs.

Construction is not an allowable activity or expenditure under this grant award.

Purchase of real property is not an allowable activity or expenditure under this grant award.

IV.6. Other Submission Requirements

Electronic Submission

See Section IV.2 for application requirements and for guidance when submitting applications electronically via http://www.Grants.gov.

For all submissions, see Section IV.3 for information on due dates and times.

V. Application Review Information

Applications competing for financial assistance will be reviewed and evaluated using the criteria described in this section. The corresponding point values indicate the relative importance placed on each review criterion. Points will be allocated based on the extent to which the application proposal addresses each of the criteria listed. Applicants should address these criteria in their application materials, particularly in the project description and budget justification, as they are the basis upon which competing applications will be judged during the objective review. The required elements of the project description and budget justification may be found in *Section IV.2* of this announcement.

Project Relevance & Current Need

Maximum Points: 5

Is the proposed project expansion justified in terms of the most recent, relevant, and available information and knowledge? (5 points)

35

Is the project work plan clear and comprehensive? Does it include realistic timeframes for the accomplishment of tasks presented? (5 points)

Does the proposal include a clear and coherent management plan? Is staff assigned responsibility for the recruitment, training, and management of an expanded cadre of volunteers? (10 points)

Does the application provide well-developed, realistic plans for expanding the volunteer workforce, including new strategies for recruitment? (10 points)

Does the application describe strategies for expanding outreach and education to beneficiaries throughout the state? (5 points)

Does the application provide strategies for expanding capacity to reach at-risk populations, including limited-English speaking populations in its target population? (5 points)

Budget Maximum Points:

Is the time commitment of the proposed director and other key project personnel sufficient to assure the objectives of the project will be achieved? (5 points)

Does the budget reflect project capacity expansion priorities (staffing support for recruitment, training and management of increased volunteer workforce)? (5 points)

Project Impact Maximum Points: 25

Are the expected project benefits/results clear, realistic, and consistent with the objectives and purpose of the project? (10 points)

Does the application clearly describe how the project will expand the capacity of the volunteer workforce to reach beneficiaries with the message of health care fraud prevention? (10 points)

Are the proposed outcomes quantifiable and measurable, consistent with the definition of a project outcome contained in Section I of the Program Announcement? (5 points)

Organizational Capacity

Maximum Points:

25

Does the applicant organization clearly identify plans to expand their organization's capacity to effectively recruit, train, support and manage a significantly increased number of SMP volunteers? (10 points)

Do the proposed project director(s), key staff and consultants have the background,

experience, and other qualifications required to carry out newly identified roles essential in achieving the objectives of the program announcement (training and managing volunteers, etc.) or have additional staffing needs been identified to assist the applicant in carrying out the proposed project? (10 points)

Are collaborations with community organizations clearly explained to illustrate how these partnerships will support the grantee's expanded capacity and outreach efforts? Or are letters from participating organizations included, as appropriate, and do they express the clear commitment and areas of responsibility of those organizations, consistent with the work plan description of their intended roles and contributions?(5 points)

V.2. Review and Selection Process

No grant award will be made under this announcement on the basis of an incomplete application. No grant award will be made to an applicant or sub-recipient that does not have active registration at www.sam.gov.

Initial Screening

Each application will be screened to determine whether it meets one of the following disqualification criteria as described in *Section III.3*. *Application Disqualification Factors*:

- Applications that are designated as late according to Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times,
- The Project Narrative section of the Application must be **double-spaced**, on 8 ½" x 11" plain white paper with **1" margins** on both sides, and a **font size of not less than 11**.
- The Project Narrative must not exceed 20 pages. NOTE: The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Project Personnel are not counted as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 20-page limit.

For those applications that have been disqualified under the initial screening, notice will be provided by postal mail or by email. See *Section IV.3. Explanation of Due Dates* for information on Grants.gov's and the Agency's acknowledgment of received applications.

Objective Review and Results

Applications competing for financial assistance will be reviewed and evaluated by objective review panels using the criteria described in *Section V.1. Criteria* of this announcement. Each panel is composed of experts with knowledge and experience in the area under review. Generally, review panels include three reviewers and one chairperson.

Results of the competitive objective review are taken into consideration by the Agency in the selection of projects for funding; however, objective review scores and rankings are not binding. They are one element in the decision-making process.

The Agency may elect not to fund applicants with management or financial problems that would indicate an inability to successfully complete the proposed project. Applications may

be funded in whole or in part. Successful applicants may be funded at an amount lower than that requested. The Agency reserves the right to consider preferences to fund organizations serving emerging, unserved, or under-served populations, including those populations located in pockets of poverty. The Agency will also consider the geographic distribution of Federal funds in its award decisions.

Final award decisions will be made by the Administrator for the Administration of Community Living, or designee. In making these decisions, the Administrator will take into consideration: recommendations of the review panel; reviews for programmatic and grants management compliance; the reasonableness of the estimated cost to the government considering the available funding and anticipated results; and the likelihood that the proposed project will result in the benefits expected.

Application Responsiveness Criteria

- 1. Applicant must be the current SMP grantee in one of the 54 states identified above; and
- 2. Applicant must be applying for the corresponding funding level identified above in Section II Award Information.

Approved but Unfunded Applications

Applications recommended for approval that were not funded under the competition because of the lack of available funds may be held over by the Agency and reconsidered in a subsequent review cycle if a future competition under the program area is planned. These applications will be held over for a period of up to one year and will be re-competed for funding with all other competing applications in the next available review cycle. For those applications that have been deemed as approved but unfunded, notice will be given of such determination by postal mail.

V.3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Announcement of awards and the disposition of applications will be provided to applicants at a later date.

VI. Award Administration Information

VI.1. Award Notices

Successful applicants will be notified through the issuance of a Notice of Award (NoA) that sets forth the amount of funds granted, the terms and conditions of the grant, the effective date of the grant, the budget period for which initial support will be given, the non-Federal share to be provided (if applicable), and the total project period for which support is contemplated. The NoA will be signed by the Grants Officer and transmitted via postal mail, email, or current Grants Management System. Following the finalization of funding decisions, organizations whose applications will not be funded will be notified by letter signed by the cognizant Program Office. Any other correspondence that announces to a

Principal Investigator, or a Project Director, that an application was selected is not an authorization to begin performance.

Project costs that are incurred prior to the receipt of the NoA are at the recipient's risk and may be reimbursed only to the extent that they are considered allowable as approved pre-award costs. Information on allowable pre-award costs and the time period under which they may be incurred is available in *Section IV.5. Funding Restrictions*.

VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Awards issued under this announcement are subject to the uniform administrative requirements and cost principles of 45 CFR. Part 74 (Awards And Subawards To Institutions Of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Nonprofit Organizations, And Commercial Organizations) or 45 CFR. Part 92 (Grants And Cooperative Agreements To State, Local, And Tribal Governments). The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is available at http://www.gpo.gov.

An application funded with the release of Federal funds through a grant award does not constitute, or imply, compliance with Federal regulations. Funded organizations are responsible for ensuring that their activities comply with all applicable Federal regulations.

The award is also subject to DHHS Administrative Requirements, which can be found in 45CFR Part 74 and 92 and the Standard Terms and Conditions, included in the Notice of Award as well as implemented through the HHS Grants Policy Statement located at http://www.hhs.gov/grantsnet/adminis/gpd/index.htm.

VI.3. Reporting

Grantees under this funding opportunity announcement will be required to submit performance progress and financial reports periodically throughout the project period. The frequency of required reporting is listed later in this section. Final reports may be submitted in hard copy to the Grants Management Office Contact listed in *Section VII. Agency Contacts* of this announcement. Instructions on submission of reports electronically will be provided with award documents.

Performance Progress Reports (PPR)

Notice of Award documents will inform grantees of the appropriate performance progress report form or format to use. Grantees should consult their Notice of Award documents to determine the appropriate performance progress report format required under their award. Performance progress reports are due 30 days after the end of the reporting period.

Final program performance reports are due 90 days after the close of the project period.

Federal Financial Reports (FFR)

As of March 1, 2011, HHS began the transition from use of the SF-269, Financial Status

Report (Short Form or Long Form) to the use of the SF-425 Federal Financial Report for expenditure reporting. SF-269s will no longer be accepted for expenditure reports due after that date. If an SF-269 is submitted, the Agency will return it and require the recipient to complete the SF-425.

The transition strategy is allowing individual HHS Operating Divisions to select--from a limited number of options--the approach that best fits their programs and business process. This transition does not affect completion or submission of the cash reporting to the HHS Division of Payment Management's Payment Management System (PMS). The primary features of this transition for recipients are that OPDIVs that previously required electronic submission of the SF-269 will receive the SF-425 expenditure reports electronically and, until further notice, OPDIVs that have been receiving expenditure reports in hard copy will continue to do so.

All expenditure reports will be due on one of the standard due dates by which cash reporting is required to be submitted to PMS or at the end of a calendar quarter as determined by the Operating Division. As a result, a recipient that receives awards from more than one OPDIV may be subject to more than one approach, but will not be required to change its current means of submission or be subjected to more than eight standard due dates.

Beginning with budget periods which end from January 1 - March 31, 2011, and for <u>all</u> budget periods thereafter, all affected Agency grantees will be required to submit an SF-425 report as frequently as is required in the terms and conditions of their award using due dates for reports to PMS.

For budget periods ending in the months of: The FFR (SF-425) is due on:

January 01 through March 31

April 30

April 01 through June 30

July 30

October 30

October 01 through December 31

January 30

Fillable versions of the SF-425 form in Adobe PDF and MS-Excel formats, along with instructions, are available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants forms and www.forms.gov. Further instructions will be provided, as necessary, with award terms and conditions that will address specific reporting periods and due dates on an award-by-award basis.

For planning purposes, the Agency reporting periods for awards made under this announcement are as follows:

Program Progress Reports: Semi-Annually Financial Reports: Semi-Annually

FFATA and FSRS Reporting

The Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires data entry at the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (http://www.FSRS.gov) for all sub-awards and sub-contracts issued for \$25,000 or more as well as addressing executive compensation for both grantee and sub-award organizations.

For further guidance please see the following link:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Reporting Requirements/index.aspx

VII. Agency Contacts

Program Office Contact

Rebecca Kinney

ACL

AOA

Washington, DC 20201

Phone: (202) 357-3520

Email: Rebecca.Kinney@acl.hhs.gov

Office of Grants Management Contact

Christine Ramirez

ACL

Washington, DC 20201

Email: grants.office@acl.hhs.gov

Federal Relay Service:

Hearing-impaired and speech-impaired callers may contact the Federal Relay Service for assistance at 1-800-877-8339 (TTY - Text Telephone or ASCII - American Standard Code For Information Interchange).

VIII. Other Information

Reference Websites

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the Internet http://www.hhs.gov/.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (C.F.D.A.) https://www.cfda.gov/.

Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) http://www.gpo.gov.

United States Code (U.S.C) http://www.gpoaccess.gov/uscode/.

Grants.gov Forms Repository webpage at http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aforms repository information.jsp.

Versions of other Standard Forms (SFs) are available on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Grants Management Forms web site at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants forms/.

For information regarding accessibility issues, visit the Grants.gov Accessibility Compliance Page at http://www07.grants.gov/aboutgrants/accessibility compliance.jsp.

An information teleconference will be held on Wednesday April 24, 2013 from 2:00 pm - 3:00pm (ET).

The call-in number is: 1-888-606-8410; Passcode:1969281

Application Checklist

What to Submit	Where Found	When to Submit
DUNS Number (Universal Identifier) and Systems for Award Management (SAM) registration.	Referenced in <i>Section III.3</i> . Other in the announcement. To obtain a DUNS number, go to http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform . To register at SAM, go to http://www.sam.gov .	A DUNS number and registration at SAM are required for all applicants. Active registration at SAM must be maintained throughout the application and project award period.
SF-424 - Application for Federal Assistance	Referenced in Section IV.2. Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications. Found at the Grants.gov Forms Repository at http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aforms-repository-information.jsp .	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3</i> . Submission Dates and Times.

SF-424A - Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs and SF-424B - Assurances - Non-Construction Programs	Referenced in Section IV.2. Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications.	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3.</i> Submission Dates and Times.
Work plan	Referenced in Section IV.2. Project Narrative. Please find the sample Work Plan Template included under the Downloads for this Funding Opportunity Announcement as posted at http://www.acl.gov/Funding Opportunities/ Announcements/Index.aspx	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3.</i> Submission Dates and Times.
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Referenced in Section IV.2. Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications.	Submission is due with the application package. If it is not submitted with the application package, it may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.
The Project Description	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description. This is the title for the project narrative that describes the applicant's plan for the project.	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3.</i> Submission Dates and Times.
The Project Budget and Budget Justification	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Budget and Budget Justification of the announcement.	Submission of the Project Budget is required on the appropriate Standard Form (424A or 424C). The Budget

the application due date found in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times.

Appendices